Management of Influenza Outbreaks in Long Term Care Facilities

Please review CDC Guidance for Influenza Outbreak Management in Long-Term Care Facilities ¹ before using this algorithm

1 confirmed or ≥2 suspected cases of influenza 2 among residents /staff

- Report to Public Health at (907) 269-8000
- Treat residents/staff with confirmed or suspected influenza with antiviral medication ³ (do not wait for rapid (antigen) test results; a negative rapid test does not rule out influenza)
- Implement outbreak control measures¹
- · Maintain a line list spreadsheet of confirmed and suspected cases in residents /staff

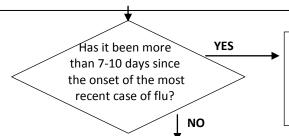
Perform influenza testing on ill residents (RT-PCR preferred, immunofluorescence, rapid test)⁴

Do one or more residents/staff have a positive influenza lab test?

NO

Start all residents and unvaccinated staff simultaneously on antiviral chemoprophylaxis³

- Continue antiviral chemoprophylaxis for at least two weeks
- Perform Influenza testing on those who develop flu symptoms >72 hrs after starting chemoprophylaxis



- Discontinue chemoprophylaxis
- Continue surveillance for new cases

- Continue outbreak control measures
- Continue antiviral chemoprophylaxis for all residents and unvaccinated staff for 7-10 days after onset of last known case of influenza

Notes

- 1. See: www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/ltc-facility-guidance.htm
- 2. Patients with influenza virus infection often have fever or feverishness with cough, chills, headache, myalgias, sore throat, or runny nose and, at times, GI symptoms. The elderly may have atypical signs and symptoms without fever.
- $3. \quad \text{See CDC antiviral treatment guidelines:} \\ \underline{\text{www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/summary-clinicians.htm}}$
- 4. See CDC laboratory diagnosis guidance: www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/diagnosis/labrolesprocedures.htm
- 5. In some cases Public Health may be able to facilitate influenza testing, 907-269-8000 for consultation



Chart adapted from Public Health Seattle & King County, WA www.kingcounty.gov/health.